

Message Text

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65S

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06

SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 IO-10 PA-01

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR ENRG EG

SUBJECT: SINAI OIL: MOBIL AND RAS SUDR

REF: CAIRO 10004 10091

1. AHAM OCT 22 FEATURES REPORT OF PRESS CONFERENCE HELD PREVIOUS DAY IN CAIRO BY UNEF COMMANDER LILJESTRAND IN WHICH HE ANNOUNCED THAT AT 1000 LOCAL OCT 21, UNEF FINNISH CONTINGENT ACCOMPANIED AMERICAN EXPERTS FROM MOBIL, WHO ARE DEPUTIZING FOR EGYPT, WHEN THEY "RECEIVED" RAS SUDR OIL FIELDS. LILJESTRAND REPORTEDLY ADDED THAT UNEF WILL TAKE OVER RAS SUDR AREA FROM ISRAEL NOV 15 AND HAND OVER TO EGYPT FOLLOWING DAY.

2. MANAGER SAWTELLE OF MOBIL EXPLORATION REPORTS THAT EVERYTHING CONCERNED WITH COMPANY'S OPERATION AT RAS SUDR IS GOING VERY WELL. GIVEN LARGE NUMBER OF SERIOUS PROBLEMS THAT COULD HAVE ARISEN, IN FACT, HE RATES EXERCISE AS 100
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PERCENT SUCCESS.

3. MOBIL NOW HAS 5 CONTRACT EMPLOYEES AT SITE IN ADDITION TO THEIR OWN 3 ORIGINAL EMPLOYEES. RELATIONS WITH UN FORCES AND WHAT SAWTELLE REFERS TO AS "OCCUPANTS" ARE EXCELLENT. THEY HAVE POOLED RATIONS, WHICH MOBIL'S CONTRACT CHINESE COOK PREPARES, AS WELL AS RESOURCES, AND IN EVERY RESPECT COOPERATION HAS BEEN SUPPERB. SAWTELLE SAYS THAT EFFORTS OF UN PERSONNEL TO BE OF WHATEVER HELP POSSIBLE HAS MADE ENTIRE UNDERTAKING A SUCCESS.

4. PRODUCTION AT RAS SUDR IS RUNNING ABOUT 2200 BD. COMPANY PLANS TO HAVE TANKER LIFT STORED OIL SOMEWHERE IN MID-NOV ALTHOUGH SUFFICIENT CAPACITY EXISTS TO DELAY OFFTAKE UNTIL EARLY DEC IF REQUIRED. MOBIL FEELS THAT FACILITIES WERE IN REASONABLE SHAPE, GIVEN CIRCUMSTANCES, ALTHOUGH SOME EQUIPMENT IS LACKING, NOTABLY ELECTRIC GENERATORS AND MOTORS WHICH EVIDENTLY HAVE BEEN MISSING FOR SOME YEARS.

5. BOTH COMMUNICATION AND CONTACTS WITH RAS SUDR ARE EXCELLENT. MOBIL SENDS VEHICLE TO SITE ON REGULAR 3 TIMES WEEKLY RUN WHICH HAS NOW DEVELOPED TO POINT WHERE IT HAS BECOME REOUTINE. SAWTELLE SAYS HE DOES NOT EXPECT ANY DIFFICULTIES RELATED TO FORTHCOMING TAKEOVER.
MAESTRONE

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